



# Blue Ridge Chapter, Trout Unlimited

## Winston-Salem, North Carolina

May 2008

### President's Letter

*Peter Lloyd, President*

Hello, Blue Ridge Members,

Summer will be here in a month. This is when I start thinking about native Brookies and wild Browns and Rainbows in our higher elevation streams. These fish and their habitat is the biggest reason I do what I can to support TU and our mission to *Protect, Reconnect, Restore, and Sustain* cold water fisheries.

We had an excellent program at our April meeting. Montie Hamby, a Board Member for the Yadkin River Keepers, talked about the of the River Keeper organization and their activities on the Yadkin River. We also learned that the Yadkin River now has a formal RIVERKEEPER program that will be an advocate to protect this valuable resource. Prior to this there little concerned people could do to influence river management decisions affecting the River. Mr. Hamby also noted that they are very interested in working with BRTU and there may be some good opportunities for conservation projects in the upper Yadkin River basin.

Gene Pope attended the SE Regional Rally at Hungry Mother State Park, VA. Gene had a great time and got a lot of information on TU's efforts. Topics included an update on brook trout in VA and NC, reports from SE States, and efforts to work with land protection groups to restore streams. The fishing was good too.

Mike Davis was at Hanging Rock State Park on Friday, April 18th during Environmental awareness days. He had a great time teaching kids about cold water conservation.

I just want to mention a few more items to leave room for more interesting reading. BRTU plans to participate in Jakes on August 2. Jakes' Day introduces kids to many outdoor activities including fishing and hunting and helps them develop a conservation ethic consistent with TU's mission. Contact Steve Hennings (336/407-1206 or [SHENNINGS@TRIAD.RR.COM](mailto:SHENNINGS@TRIAD.RR.COM)) for more information. We are continuing work on our Trout in the Classroom Projects for the 2008-2009 school year. Contact Steve Hennings if you would like to get involved with this project. Go to at:

### Welcome New Members

William White, Todd H. Greenwood, G. Alferd Webster, James C. Crews, Scott Pope, Roy Davidson, John Goins

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\***

MAY 27, 2008, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING  
JUNE 17, 2008, 6:00 PM BRTU CHAPTER MEETING  
AUGUST 3, 2008, JAKES DAY

#### 2007-2008 Chapter Leadership

##### Officers:

Peter Lloyd, President  
Dan Benfield, VP  
David Richards, Sec.  
Bill Remaley, Treas.

##### Board Members:

Michael Davis  
Chad Fulp  
Steve Hennings  
Eugene Pope  
Paul Scheponik  
Sam Wauford

<http://www.troutintheclassroom.org> to learn more about TIC. We are also looking for folks to help with a project to provide the children's book, Trout are Made of Trees, to K-3 teachers in our area. Please contact me if you'd like to be involved in this project.

Peter  
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(336) 774-0278  
[lloydpb@forsyth.cc](mailto:lloydpb@forsyth.cc)

### BRTU Teaches Fly Fishing Merit Badge

*Mike Davis*

On Sat. May 3<sup>rd</sup> Steve Hennings, Bill Remaly and myself presented the Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge program for about 12 Scouts at Ravens Knob. We got started about 9 AM covering the basics of fly rods, tackle, matching line to rods, safety, etc. As always the Scouts like to be hands on so we dove right into the knot tying work. We worked with several Scouts on tying the arbor, nail and improved cinch knot, and the joy on their faces when they would finally get it was priceless. Just before lunch we began to discuss flies and bug life and what trout eat and setup for tying flies. After lunch we managed to walk them all through tying some type of dry and wet fly with some very creative flies produced. We headed to the lake for some casting demo time and eventually added the flies to go after some fish. I think almost every Scout was able to catch 1 or more bream on their flies. It was excitement all around as they pulled in different sized panfish and were proud to show off their fishing skills.

All Scouts passed the Merit Badge with flying colors and we hope to do it again next year.

Blue Ridge Chapter  
Trout Unlimited  
2608 Weymoth Road  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Chapter Meeting Announcement

*Dan Benfield, Program Chair*

The program at our May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting will be on Brook Trout Monitoring and Restoration. Kevin Hining, a Fishery Biologist with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission will present an update on the current efforts to monitor and restore brook trout populations in North Carolina. Kevin will also discuss ideas for TU volunteer assistance.

Our chapter meets at **Texas Land and Cattle Steak House** just off of Hanes Mall Blvd across the road from Target. Our meetings start at **6:00 PM** to allow folks to mingle, order dinner and get settled before the 7:00 program. We welcome new members and visitors. Bring your family with you. This is a family oriented organization we welcome men, women and children.

### Newsletter On-Line

Many of us get this newsletter from the BRTU website. This saves the postage costs so we can use this money for conservation and education projects (~\$3.50 for each member annually). If have an email address, just send it to me at [lloydpb@forsyth.cc](mailto:lloydpb@forsyth.cc) and you will be notified by email when the newsletter is posted. Thanks to those of you who have signed up for the email.

### Get Your Official NCTU License Plate Now!



### DON'T DELAY! MAIL YOUR APPLICATION TODAY!

The North Carolina *Back the Brookie* license plate is now available. To reserve your new license plate, you can download and complete an application form from our website at <http://www.blueridgetu.org> or call me.

The plates are \$20 and \$50 for a personalized plate and NCTU receives \$10 from each plate (\$20 from personalized plates). We've collected around 200 applications so far but need 300 before the DMV will be able to begin printing the plates. As an added bonus, one of the first 300 applicants will win a Winston Fly Rod! Thanks to everyone who made this possible.



Left: Bill Remaley Teaches Knots to Scouts at Ravens Knob

Right: Mike Davis With Students at Hanging Rock SP During Environmental Awareness Days